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Giving thanks

Six-year-old Arianna Hirstwood and her younger sister Ella, 4, show their support for frontline workers in the community by decorating their window with colourful hearts. Several neighbours of Arianna and Ella are frontline workers. The Archie Stouffer Elementary School community was challenged by Quinn and Eleanor Higgins to create displays in homes and workplaces to show support. /DARREN LUM Staff

Kinmount community member dies in Pinecrest outbreak

by SUE TIFFIN
Times Staff

Friends of Mike St. Thomas said that he gave it his all in life, getting involved in as much as possible and participating with enthusiasm.

He even created a new name for where he

lived – Burbobkin – hanging a sign at the entrance way to his home at the corner of County Roads 49 and 121 near Burnt River, Bobcaygeon and Kinmount.

St. Thomas volunteered in Burnt River using his skills as a cook to help at the Burnt River Diner's Dinner held at the community centre. In Kinmount, he joined the St. James

Anglican Church and was a longtime member of the Kinmount Royal Canadian Legion Branch. In Bobcaygeon, when he moved to the Pinecrest Nursing Home, he made his mark there, helping lift spirits of his fellow residents, including his mom, Jean.

On March 28 at 71 years old, he died of complications due to COVID-19 in an out-

break of the virus at the long-term care centre. Mike's mother, Jean, died a week later on April 4 at 95 years old. Her death has not been confirmed to have been connected to the outbreak.

Friends describe St. Thomas as being optimistic, caring and thoughtful.

see ST. THOMAS page 2

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COVID-19 case from community contact

by JENN WATT
Editor

A man in his 90s who had no recent history of travel or contact with a person with a confirmed case of COVID-19 was the first person in Haliburton County to test positive for the coronavirus.

The man is recovering after arriving at the Haliburton hospital by ambulance on March 30 presenting with abdominal pain, according to the local health unit. He was later diagnosed with pneumonia and received a positive test result for COVID-19 on April 1.

Since that time, a second person has tested positive for the virus.

Dr. Norm Bottum, a member of the Haliburton Highlands Family Health Team, said it's important to note the first case of coronavirus was spread through community contact and was not travel-related.

"The gentleman who was admitted was a community contact. He wasn't travelling out of country, so that's important for people to know because I had always assumed that our first case would be somebody coming back from Florida or Cuba or something like that and it turned out to be somebody who had contact through community contacts so that's really important to know because it's out there and you have to be careful in every environment," he said.

He said personal contacts of the man with COVID-19 had been tested at the recommen-

dation of the admitting doctor.

Haliburton Highlands Health Services has been preparing for weeks to accommodate patients with the coronavirus.

"What we've been doing over the last two weeks in preparation, is to try not to admit patients to the hospital, move patients that were waiting for long-term care to long-term care facilities," Dr. Bottum said, "so the Ministry of Health has helped us [because] typically people who are in hospital waiting for long-term care are not deemed high priority. Deeming them high priority to open up the space they jump to the top of the list, it's allowed us to open up our acute care."

As of Friday, only three patients were still in acute care and the doctor said one was anticipated to be leaving shortly, free-

ing up most of the 15 beds in the Haliburton hospital.

On Tuesday of last week, a COVID-19 assessment centre was set up in the parking lot of the Haliburton Family Medical Centre on Gelert Road, receiving patients by appointment only. During the four days it was open last week, 34 patients were seen with most of those people being tested for the coronavirus. Several of those tests are still awaiting results.

You do not need to be a patient at the medical centre, but you do first need to complete the online self-assessment at Ontario.ca/coronavirus and, if prompted by the self-assessment, call 705-457-1212 (and press six) to book an appointment.

St. Thomas remembered as a 'very nice man, very giving'

from page 1

"Mike didn't do anything half, he went all in or not at all," said Marylou Ferguson, president of the John McGrath Branch 441 in Kinmount. She said he joined the Legion about 10 years ago, as a member. "Then, like everything Mike does, he went full-force. He joined the executive and became my first vice, and contributed in everything at the Legion level. From there we just became friends."

When the two took a sign language course, Ferguson said "He would get everything that was required, he would get all the books, because he wanted to do the best at everything he did, and he did," she said. "When we'd go to class, he'd be there with bells on, and

know that he was contributing to make it better and fun for everybody."

St. Thomas had a personality that one person, in their condolences, described as being like "a teddy bear."

"I don't think I ever saw him mad or say a crass word about anybody," said Ferguson. "He was just a very nice man, very giving, and lots of good ideas, too. He would always come up with something to try to make things better. He was just a really nice guy."

After St. Thomas's mom moved to Pinecrest, Ferguson said he struggled to keep his weight down and with diabetes, challenges that led to him moving to Pinecrest as well. Though he didn't adjust to it there right away, and considered leaving, he eventually opted to stay.



Michael (Mike) St. Thomas died March 28 at Pinecrest Nursing Home in Bobcaygeon, as a result of complications due to COVID-19. St. Thomas was a member of the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 441 in Kinmount. / Submitted photo



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"He would want everybody to enjoy everything," said Ferguson of his presence at the residence. "I believe the residents at the home really basically fell in love with Mike. He gave them, I'm not going to say hope, but he made it more fun, more enjoyable to be where they were."

St. Thomas sent messages to friends when the outbreak occurred, concerned about what could happen to himself and fellow residents. One friend reached out to parliament in an attempt to help. Ferguson was leaving her job, an essential service, when she heard of his death.

"I hope everybody is paying attention to what's happening and who it's affecting," said Ferguson. "It's not just the elderly, it's anybody ... When I got out of work and sat in my car, I just knew who it was. I knew that Mike was one of the 'casualties of war.'"

Ferguson said his death has been more painful because of an inability for family and friends to gather together in mourning.

"When somebody passes like Mike, you just want that closure," she said, after speaking to CBC about his life. "Because we can't get together and talk about the funny things he did or the way most people, when some-

body passes, you do a celebration for them. Mike didn't want anything ... but that doesn't mean that we couldn't get together and talk about him and just be, and have that closure. That's the hardest part, knowing that none of us can give that person the hug that they want or that they need."

Pinecrest Nursing Home, a 65-bed long-term care facility, has been the site of the largest coronavirus outbreak in Ontario since mid-March. To date, 27 COVID-19 related deaths have been reported at the facility, as well as the death of a spouse of a resident.

"This is truly a horrible time for the families and friends of the residents, as well as our staff," said Mary Carr, administrator of Pinecrest Nursing Home, in a March 26 press release. "We have a number of medically fragile and vulnerable people living in our home; our residents are like family to our staff. Our sympathies go out to all of the families and friends of the people we have lost."

At press time, 4,726 confirmed cases of COVID-19 had been reported in Ontario, with 153 deaths and 1,802 cases resolved. Two cases have been confirmed in Haliburton County.

Arena project on pause following provincial announcement

by **CHAD INGRAM**
Times Staff

The Minden Hills arena project is paused for the time being following an April 3 announcement by the provincial government that further restricts construction activities within Ontario.

While the province's initial announcement of what "essential" businesses would be permitted to continue operating amid the COVID-19 pandemic included most forms of construction, an announcement from Premier Doug Ford last Friday restricted permitted construction activities to the completion of residential projects currently underway, along with construction projects tied to essential services – the construction of a hospital, for example.

It means that for now, the nearly \$13-million arena project, which was on track to be completed early in June, is on hold.

"It's a two-week period," Minden Hills



Construction on the Minden Hills arena project is on hold following provincial restrictions announced last week that limit construction activity amid the COVID-19 crisis. /CHAD INGRAM Staff

Mayor Brent Devolin told the *Times*, adding he wouldn't be surprised if that initial two-week period is extended by at least another two weeks.

The original construction schedule for the

project – which includes a new arena with six change rooms, office space for community services staff, and gymnasium with elevated walking track – was to see it completed for the end of the summer, before the 2020/21

ice season. However, projections in recent months have been that the facility would be completed in June.

"On a practical level, we had kind of two months' grace," Devolin said, noting though that, in a post-COVID-19 world, depending on what kind of restrictions might still be in place by the fall, activities that would normally happen at a recreation centre may not even be able to take place.

Devolin was asked if the pause of what is likely to be a month or more would come with additional financial costs.

"Usually, in a capital project, time is money," he said, but added given the unprecedented nature of the situation, he wasn't sure.

There are still a few sub-trade jobs to be contracted on the project – mostly exterior work such as curbs, etc. – and Devolin said that given the province-wide hold on construction, the township may be able to receive some competitive bids on those works once construction is able to resume.

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DISCLAIMER

The information provided on this page is considered current and valid as of April 6, 2020.

While the Township of Minden Hills works diligently to provide the public with the most current information regarding service provisions and reductions during the COVID-19 pandemic, we are aware that, due to the rapidly evolving nature of the outbreak, information can, and may, change on a daily basis. The public is strongly encouraged to refer to our website at www.minden hills.ca for current and up-to-date information. Anyone unable to access the website can call 705-286-1260 or email admin@minden hills.ca for assistance.

Meetings

All Council, Committee of the Whole, Public, Advisory Committee and Local Board regularly scheduled meetings have been suspended until further notice.

SPRING THAW REMINDER

A reminder that springtime is typically the time of year when periods of precipitation historically occur. Property owners are reminded to be aware of and monitor their situation, as each can vary depending on: distance from watershed(s), distance from an unaffected accessible road, height of land, property saturation levels; and the availability, number, size and type of sump pump, etc.

Visit <https://www.minden hills.ca/emergency-fire-services/flood-information/> for more information.

Easter Holiday Weekend

With the Easter holiday weekend fast approaching, the Township of Minden Hills understands the difficulties many of us will have in celebrating what is normally a highly social holiday, in a much more private and subdued way during the COVID-19 pandemic. Your continued efforts to maintain social and physical distancing during this time are genuinely appreciated, and will have a significant impact on the safety of you, your family and friends, and our community.

Council and Staff would like to thank everyone for their efforts and actions to help flatten the curve and to wish everyone a very safe and enjoyable Easter holiday weekend.

And for those who provide essential Health Care and Frontline Services, and who are not able to celebrate this Easter weekend in their traditional way, THANK YOU so very much for everything you've done and will continue to do to keep us well.

Please note our Administrative Call Answering Services will not be monitored on **Fri Apr 10th & Mon Apr 13th** during the Easter holiday. If calling on these dates, please leave your name, number and reason for your call and the answering services will resume on **Tues Apr 14th**.

For Municipal Emergency contact after hours, please call: 1-866-856-3247. For all other emergency calls, please dial 911.



PROPERTY ASSESSMENT VALUES AND ASSESSMENT REVIEW BOARD:

The Request for Reconsideration (RfR) deadline is usually March 31st of the applicable taxation year. However, given the emergency declared by the Province of Ontario, pursuant to the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act and regulations made thereunder, the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation, (MPAC) has announced that the RfR deadline for the 2020 taxation year will be 16 days after the emergency is lifted.

<https://www.mpac.ca/>

For information regarding Assessment Review Board deferrals and timelines, please refer to the Board's website **under News and Updates:** <https://elto.gov.on.ca>

TOWNSHIP SERVICE PROVISION REDUCTIONS

A reminder that all Township facilities remain closed to the public, until further notice. Administrative call answering services will remain available between the hours of 8:30 AM and 4:30 PM Monday to Friday, 705-286-1260 x 200 or admin@minden hills.ca.

Please provide your name, contact information (phone and/or email) and a clear and brief message regarding the reason for your call. The public can be assured that essential services will be maintained as much as possible.

We are asking the public to restrict inquiries to Township priority requests only and please understand that it may take longer to reply to messages as Staff handle increased phone and email inquiries.

We are also asking the public for their patience during this time and to observe our request to contact the Township for municipal related inquiries by the following methods only:

Telephone: 705-286-1260 x. 200

Email: admin@minden hills.ca

Please do not call or email the various Departments or their related extensions or submit inquiries through the Minden Hills website Contact Us form.

Please visit <https://www.minden hills.ca/covid-19-information/>.

Burn Permits

From April 1st to October 31st each year, Burn Permits are required to burn approved materials between the hours of 7:00 AM and 7:00 PM, as per By-law 19-57 for the Regulating of Open Air Fires.

Due to the current requirement for social/physical distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Minden Hills Fire Department, along with the other fire departments in Haliburton County, have suspended the issuing of Burn Permits, until further notice. This is in conjunction with the Township's continuing effort to keep the community safe by implementing community-based measures to limit exposure to risk for the public, Township employees and volunteers.

The public is reminded that, as per By-law 19-57: No person shall start a fire, outdoors for burning untreated wood products, leaves and brush, between the hours of 7:00 AM and 7:00 PM without a permit. Any person that sets a fire within the restricted time without a permit shall be responsible for all fees, fines and costs incurred by the fire department

Restricted Fire Zone (RFZ) due to COVID-19

Effective April 3, 2020, and until further notice, The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) have implemented a Restricted Fire Zone (RFZ) (Fire Ban) across the entire legislated fire region of Ontario due to impacts related to the COVID-19 outbreak.

This is proactive action by the Ministry is to reduce the number of preventable human-caused wildfires to ensure that emergency response capacity is maintained. Minimizing wildfires will ensure the province is able to address any emergency fire situations as well as will reduce necessary contact among staff, and between staff and the public.

For more information on MNRF fire restrictions, please visit their website at: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/outdoor-fire-restrictions>

Public Parks, Playgrounds and Boat Launches

In accordance with the Ontario Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act, the following Township maintained seasonal public parks, playgrounds and boat launches are CLOSED, effectively immediately, until further notice:

- Panorama Park
- Rotary Park
- Bissett Beach
- Lutterworth Park
- Furnace Falls
- Skateboard Park, Tennis Courts and Shuffle Board Courts
- Peck Street Boat Launch
- Downtown Public Dock (located on Water Street, along the Gull River)

A reminder that the Minden, Lochlin and Irondale Community Centres remain closed, including the children's playgrounds at each of these locations.

Signage and/or barricades will be placed at all affected locations.

All other municipally maintained public boat launches will remain open at this time. When accessing these locations, ensure that you are practicing social/physical distancing with a minimum of 2m (6 feet) between yourself and other members of the public.

A Reminder Regarding our Waste Sites (Landfills)

A reminder of reduced services at waste sites to the acceptance of bagged garbage and household recycling only was undertaken in response to the rapidly evolving COVID-19 pandemic.

The Township of Minden Hills is urging residents to avoid waste sites as much as possible, in order to reduce the number of individuals on site at any given time.

Do not attend waste sites unless you have accumulated 3 full bags of garbage

When attending waste sites, please adhere to the following:

- Do not bring passengers to waste sites unless you need physical assistance unloading your vehicle or have no other arrangements made for watching a dependant (child, elderly, etc.)
- Do not cross any physical barriers put in place at each site.
- Do not approach attendants for assistance unless you are in physical distress.
- Do not attend the site with any materials beyond bagged household waste and recycling.
- Do not enter the site attendant's shelter or bring food or beverages for the site attendants.
- Do not exit your vehicle with the exception of unloading your vehicle at the household waste bin and recycling bins.
- All communication with site staff shall be completed through the window of your vehicle, and shall be limited to discussions regarding the disposal of your waste.
- When you have exited your vehicle, **ensure** that you are practicing social/physical distancing with a minimum of 2m (6 feet) between yourself and members of the public.

Any person verbally harassing or abusing site staff and/or failing to comply with the above requirements or regular waste facility rules/regulations **will be** suspended from attending the site for the remainder of the Provincial and Municipal declared COVID-19 Pandemic Emergency.

Please remember that these are **temporary** measures put in place to stop the transmission of COVID-19 and a **return to normal operations will require the immediate and full cooperation of the public.**

Tax Due Date Extension

The tax due date for the 1st installment of the 2020 interim tax billing is extended to April 24, 2020, without penalty or interest.

Minden's Tekrider to produce PPE

by JENN WATT
Editor

In a very short time, Minden Hills company Tekrider plans to join the effort to make personal protective equipment, temporarily switching from producing snowmobile and motorcycle body armour to medical gowns and washable cotton face masks.

As Canada's medical system grapples with the rapid spread of the coronavirus, calls have gone out to the private sector to help out.

However, becoming a PPE producer isn't always easy. For Tekrider, the challenge was being designated an essential service, which would allow the plant to continue operations.

A few weeks ago, Tekrider owner and founder Steve Brand was on a snowmobile trip when it became clear that assistance from the private sector would be necessary. "That's when I made some inquiries as to what we could do for PPE," Brand said.

He went through the initial steps of signing up on the provincial website, but there was no mechanism to receive the "essential service" label that would allow them to move forward.

"Around and around we go for over a week," he said, describing the administrative process, "and so Liz Danielsen as the warden made the decision to write a letter."

Brand said it was that letter that broke through the bureaucracy.

For her part, Danielsen said it was an obvious decision to support a local business that could potentially supply local health-care services. She said the connection with Tekrider was initially made through Haliburton County's paramedic services.

"When we realized there was that source [of PPE] so close to home and [Brand] let us know the trouble he was having ... we've got to go to bat for companies that are able to help us that way," she said.

A letter of support for Tekrider's proposal that outlined Haliburton County's need for PPE was drafted. On April 1, the company was given the essential service designation, Brand said.

While the administrative work was being done, Brand was taking the necessary steps to get started quickly.

"In the meantime, we've got all our prototyping done," he



Tekrider owner and founder Steve Brand holds up a mask that will be reverse engineered and manufactured at the Minden Hills-based facility. His company has retooled to manufacture body coverings (seen at back) and washable cotton masks for the public. Staff working are choosing to come in and will be stationed apart from each other, observing safety protocols. Tekrider is known for making TekVest. /DARREN LUM Staff

said. "I just went to Toronto and picked up two specialized sewing machines and we'll probably have to get three more."

So far, he has had to make the investments in equipment himself.

Tekrider is approaching its 25th year in business next year, employs about 15 people and is "the world's number one selling upper body protective gear in snowmobiling," Brand said. Their primary product is the TekVest.

Tekrider will make cotton masks that can be washed at the end of each day – not the N-95s or surgical masks – as well as gowns in several sizes. This week, staff will be test-sewing the items to figure out how much time each one takes, the cost of materials and the overhead costs to determine a per-unit price.

From their location outside Kinmount, Tekrider is close enough to potentially supply several health-care facilities, retirement homes and other institutions that might need gowns and masks. The intention is also to sell masks online – with pricing released on the company's Facebook page.

"We really think we'll be servicing the local area," he said.

Danielsen said she was pleased that Tekrider is able to move forward and thankful they were willing to go through the process of retooling for PPE.

"I'm grateful that there's a company that's local, that's using their initiative to be able to supply us with absolutely key equipment and supplies to help us deal with this emergency," she said.

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Music From Home attracts thousands of music fans

by SUE TIFFIN
Times Staff

Days into staying at home to stay safe and help prevent the spread of coronavirus, Brent Coltman, a guitar player and musician who regularly jammed when community could gather had the idea of sharing a video or two of the songs he was playing on Facebook. He wasn't exactly sure how to do that, but his nephew, Aaron Brown, stepped in to help, suggesting that rather than Brent posting to his personal page, he launch a public page on Facebook so that the general public could join in. Music From Home was created soon after.

"I posted the very first video, I was playing for a group of one, and by that afternoon we probably had two to 300 people," said Brent.

Five days later, more than 1,570 people had joined. And now, since March 10, the site is followed by more than 2,600 people – many of them local, but some from as far away as the Yukon, the Maritimes and Europe, many of those people noting a connection to the area.

"Not in a million years, not in a million years," said Brent from his Minden home, when asked if he had expected the popularity of the page. "Just my friends, my friends and family posting some of their songs and videos and we'd laugh at them and joke at them, that was the original plan."

Instead, the page has become a place where musicians – amateur or not – are encouraged. Many of the videos are uploaded by people who don't perform publicly, and are hesitant and humble in their posts, but who receive encouraging comments from those watching, including the site administrators, Brent, his



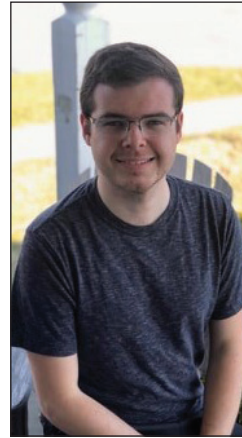
Brent Coltman, of Minden, launched the Music From Home page on Facebook soon after staying home due to the coronavirus pandemic. The page now has more than 2,500 members. /Submitted

wife Annie, and nephew Aaron.

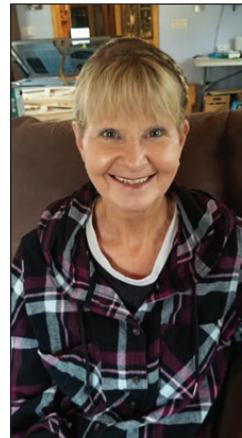
"I'm just blown away with how people have responded, and so impressed with the local talent," said Brent. "People I grew up with, like Kevin Fairey, I didn't even know he sang. I didn't even know he played guitar and he just lived down the road from me."

Brent is self-employed and usually has the winter off, but joked that being an administrator on the site – making sure the videos stick to the rule of being live-recorded or live – is "a full-time job."

"This just makes your days go by," he said. "I've had probably 30 people calling the house saying 'this is incredible, we don't



Aaron Brown helped his uncle Brent Coltman start the Music From Home page, making Brent's idea of sharing music while sheltering in place at home something the general public could participate in. /Submitted



Annie Coltman, one of the Music From Home page administrators, told the group: "Everyone has come together like a very large family ... Music connects us all, whether we can play, write, sing, listen or heal from it." /Submitted

even watch Netflix anymore. We don't watch the videos during the day, we have an early supper, and we spend the whole evening watching music videos."

Brent said the site is beneficial to those who want to see familiar faces and find comfort in the music being shared, but also to those who find the courage to upload videos

of original music, songs sung in the quiet of the front seat of a car, and songs that are usually sung alone or with one's family.

"I'm probably the shyest guitar player in the world," said Brent. "But when I'm sitting on my favourite couch with my guitar, and the iPad set up on my music stand and I play a song, I'm not playing to anybody. I'm just sitting with my guitar. You don't get the comments that there's 1,500 people. When you hit post, now you've got three Minden arenas listening to you, technically, you've got 1,500 people sitting in their living room looking at you playing the song, but there's no pressure when you do the song."

Brent noted there are also well-known local musicians posting videos.

"It's like a personal concert in your living room," he said. "They're in their living room stuck, singing a song to you."

But he also gets a kick out of, "the little kids playing a ukulele for grandma and grandpa."

In a video posted in the group March 31, Annie thanked members for sharing their music with each other.

"You have given us all a warm welcome into your homes, and lives," she said. "You have placed us beside you on the couch, and put us at your kitchen table. You've kept us warm beside your wood stove and let us peek at you making maple syrup. Everyone has come together like a very large family. Isolation is difficult, especially anyone suffering from mental illness or living alone. Music connects us all, whether we can play, write, sing, listen or heal from it ... Please stay safe, and look each after each other, as we are all making memories."

To listen in or share a tune, visit Music From Home on Facebook.



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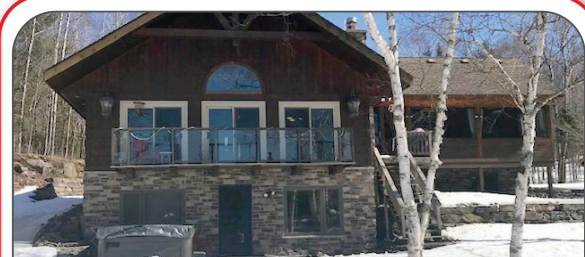
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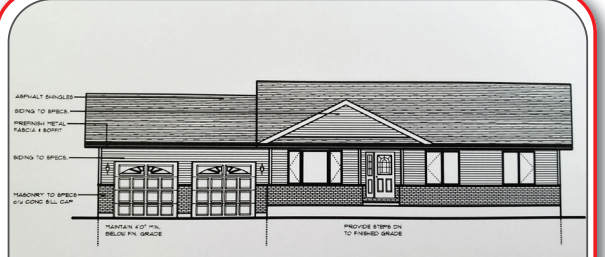
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The Times**DAVID ZILSTRA**,
Publisher and Ad Director,
david.zilstra@gmail.com**JENN WATT**, Managing Editor,
jenn@haliburtonpress.com**JENNIFER MCEATHRON**, Admin
jenniferm@haliburtonpress.com**DEBBIE COMER**, Circulation,
debbie@haliburtonpress.com**CHAD INGRAM**, Reporter,
chad@haliburtonpress.com**DARREN LUM**, Reporter,
darren@haliburtonpress.com**SUE TIFFIN**, Reporter
sue@haliburtonpress.com**KAREN LONDON**,
Production Co-ordinator
karen@haliburtonpress.com2 IGA Road, Box 97
Minden, ON, K0M 2K0
• 705-286-1288 • Fax 705-286-4768
Published by White Pine Media Corp**LAURA CHOWZUN**,
Production**STACEY POTLIVO**,
Production**LAURA SMITH**, Sales,
laura@haliburtonpress.com**PAUL BANELOPOULOS**, Sales
paul@haliburtonpress.com**PAT LEWIS**, Inside Sales
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A community of communities

A LETTER ISSUED by the physicians of the Haliburton Highlands about a week and a half ago has stirred up some contention, some feuding on social media and even in person, from what I understand, but it's important for everyone to remember that letter was issued with the preservation of everyone's health in mind.

That letter asked seasonal residents to reconsider any plans to come to their seasonal residences at this time, citing the county's limited medical resources. While the county is home to two hospitals, those hospitals are extremely small. The Minden site is essentially an emergency room attached to a long-term care home – there are no in-patient beds – and the Haliburton Village facility is much the same, albeit with 15 beds. Neither site has an ICU, the closest one an hour's drive away.

Again, I realize some see the message as divisive. Some perceive that the situation is pitting year-round residents against seasonal ones, essentially telling the latter group they are unwelcome in a community to which they are vitally important.

Full disclosure: I am a seasonal-turned-year-round resident of Haliburton County. I began my relationship with the county as a cottager, and have lived here year-round for the past 12 years. My parents, my sister and her family remain traditional seasonal residents. So, if there are two camps – but I don't believe there are, really – then I feel I essentially have a foot in each.

The point is I understand the urge to come and self-isolate at the cottage. If I weren't in the county already, I'd probably have the same urge. I also understand the sadness and disappointment that would come with the thought of losing some or all of

the cottaging season. Certainly there are already seasonal residents who've come to the community early, there will be more who do, and if those people go directly to their places, fully stocked with supplies for a few months, then they are arguably doing little harm. Some would argue differently.

Yes, it's strange that at a time of year when a community reliant on a seasonal summer economy is normally rolling out its carpets for its seasonal residents, those residents are being asked to stay away. Yes, it's true

that in many ways they prop the community up, and yes it's true that waterfront property taxes constitute the vast majority of the tax base in the county. However, none of those things make the statements in the letter from the community's doctors any less true. Ultimately,

**CHAD INGRAM**
Reporter

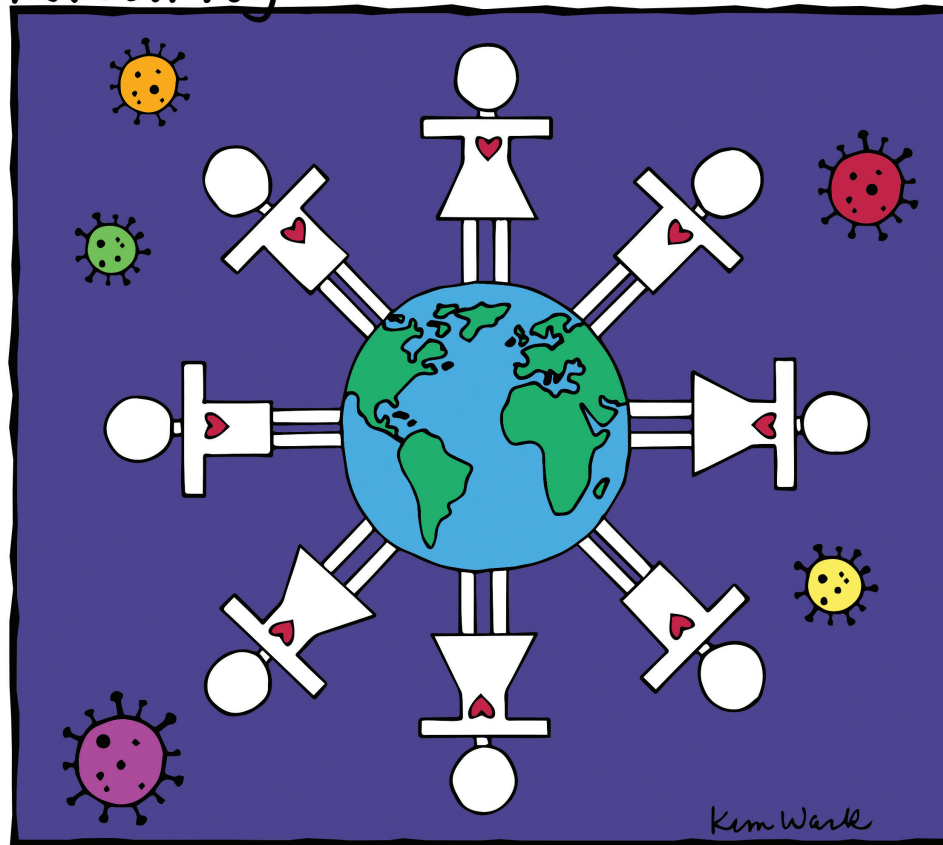
unless the government makes it illegal for seasonal residents to visit their seasonal properties – which is happening in some countries – it will be up to those residents to make what they feel is the best decision based on everything they've read and seen about the spread of COVID-19.

As food bank demand increases with the layoffs of county residents amid the outbreak, last week, the county's lake associations began donating thousands of dollars to local food banks. That concept drew some snark – “Aren't these the same group of people you have told to stay home?” one reader wrote on the *Times* Facebook page. And some are going to share that opinion.

However, another wrote: “We should give a shout out to our seasonal neighbours for their donations. We are a community of communities working all together to help each other.”

I firmly believe that to be true.

Kwarky



Kim Wark

Together, Apart

Say 'it' with antlers

DURING THESE strange times we are living through, I think it's even more important to tell that special someone we are isolating with what they mean to us.

Commercials used to advise lovestruck men to “Say it with diamonds.” Sadly, they were never exactly clear about what “it” meant. My best guess is that “it” meant “You need an item that could be used in fashioning rudimentary tools or bartering in the event of a societal collapse.”

Which is why, on Sunday, I was pleased to find something that could substitute for “it.” You see, during a solitary walk in a stretch of woods, I found an antler that was shed by a small buck sometime around January.

I quickly realized that, given the choice between the type of diamond I could afford or a shed antler that I

found on the ground, my special someone would probably opt for the antler. Women are, after all, highly practical, and an antler, as we all know, can at least double as a back scratcher – or if you find a matching set, a pretty fancy set of salad tongs. Moreover, a shed antler is a unique work of art, much like a snowflake, since no two ever bear the same rodent tooth marks.

Before you think that you now have the key to romance, let me explain there is a right way and a wrong way – OK many wrong ways – to give a woman a shed antler that you found.

First, let's focus on the right way. And that means keeping it to three points or less.

Sure, you could give the love of your life a four-point shed antler but it's really

far too ostentatious and, eventually, you'll both regret it. The nearest I can liken this to is Gollum and the One Ring. Every time she brings out the antler, you'll lust for it and mutter “My Precious” – especially if it has long tines and good mass.

And that's not good for a relationship in the long run.

No, if you really love her, you should say “it” with a three-point antler or less.

Now let's discuss a few of the other missteps you should avoid. Chief among these is not giving your special someone a found

antler if it is still attached to the deer skull. That's just overdoing it and something you should save for an important anniversary – such as the one that celebrates your biggest brook trout.

Also, you should not try to give antlers to her in earring form – unless you give her a matching hunter orange beret to accompany them during deer season.

Obviously, these are not hard and fast rules. For every woman reacts to the gift of a shed antler differently.

Some tear up. Some remain speechless. Others visit their mother or sister for several weeks – presumably so they can lord it over them.

My own special someone opted for speechless.

I'm not sure if that was because I told her that if I could, I'd give her moose antlers (provided they were under 20 inches and not too broadly palmated) or whether it was because of the words I chose to accompany the gift.

I said, “If you think this is special, you should see what I've got in store for you on the fifth anniversary of my biggest brook trout.”

**STEVE GALEA**
Beyond 35

IN OTHER WORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

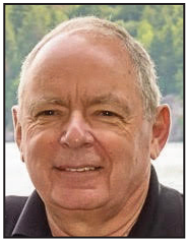
When the hammer falls

THE LYRICS KEEP riffing through my head . . .

Oh, every night and every day
A little piece of you is falling away
But lift your face the Western Way
Build your muscles as your body decays

That's a stanza from Hammer to Fall, the energetic rock song written in 1984 by Brian May, guitarist for the British rock band Queen. You might have seen Oscar-winner Rami Malek, as lead Queen singer Freddie Mercury, singing it in the movie Bohemian Rhapsody.

It is a song about life and death, with May once explaining that "the Hammer coming down is only a symbol of the Grim Reaper doing his job."



JIM POLING SR.

From Shaman's Rock

It is a song easily identifiable today with the once unimaginable death and destruction wrought by the coronavirus pandemic. More than one million people around the world are infected with the virus. More than 70,000 have died, with thousands more deaths predicted.

The economic toll of the pandemic is being compared to the Great Depression of the 1930s. Businesses are shuttered, unemployment is soaring, stock markets have been hammered.

All this happening to keep people distant from each other to lessen the spread of the virus.

With so much human suffering and grief it seems almost unconscionable to dwell on the problems of business and industry. However, I can't avoid thinking and writing about the pandemic's effects on one industry in particular – the newspaper industry.

The newspaper industry as we have known it will not survive this pandemic. It has been in a weakened state – basically bedridden for several years – and advertising revenue lost during the near global lockdown will cause it to draw its final breaths.

Some daily newspapers have cut publication days. Some have closed their doors and others certainly will follow. Whatever has been cut or lost will not return.

There is nothing that can be done to save the overall newspaper industry as we have known it – news printed on paper and delivered by hand. Some printed newspapers will survive, others will carry on strictly as digital products or others might appear in formats yet to be invented.

What must not be allowed to die is the professional, disciplined journalism cultivated by newspapers.

Journalism is the oxygen-rich breath in the lungs of democracy. When deprived of it, those lungs collapse and the democracy dies.

There are those who would applaud the death of journalism. That would suit their autocratic interests, allowing them to spread unchallenged their misinformation and hyper prejudiced claptrap.

We live in a dark age of information manipulation in which information critical to our lives is twisted like pretzels. Waves of words wash over us daily, increasing the need for more, not fewer, professional journalists who produce balanced news that is fact-checked, edited and put into context.

Good journalism is about reporting truth in the public interest. Good journalism's only allegiances are to facts and the public interest.

Corporations and governments cannot keep journalism from dying. Only the citizenry, which journalism was born to serve, can save it.

A problem with that is that much of our citizenry is not well informed about journalism. Most people do not understand its workings and complexities, let alone its value to society.

They must become better informed if journalism is to survive to continue shining light into unseen areas and to observe and report the actions of those making decisions that affect us all.

The key to having the general public better informed about the value of journalism is held by society's influencers. The civic leaders, business leaders and religious leaders; the people whose words and actions are watched and followed by the public.

It is the influencers who need to make the importance of journalism, and the need to sustain it, an important topic of conversation.

We just can't stand by and let journalism die. If we do, we are accepting the final stanza of the Queen song:

What the hell we fighting for
Just surrender and it won't hurt at all
You've just got time to say your prayers
While you're waiting for the Hammer to Fall.

I refuse to accept that. I will not surrender. No one should.

Lungs need oxygen and democracy needs good journalism. That's a message important to pass along.

Breaking homeostasis

HOMEOSTASIS IS defined as "the tendency toward a relatively stable equilibrium between interdependent elements, especially as maintained by physiological processes." Simply put, it's a steady state maintained by living systems. Even before the you-know-what hit the fan I found myself struggling with breaking the steady state. Whoever created the couch did us no favours. Especially the person that decided adding really cushy cushions to it would be a good idea. Now that this virus has stopped the world, breaking homeostasis is harder than ever. If we don't change something now there will be a whole bunch more pain when we can move around freely again.

The first tip I have is to find a system that reminds you to get up. If you have a cellphone or tablet there is a timer function. I find that easier than setting an alarm for a specific time. Another trick is to put the device on the other side of the room. That way there's no choice but to get up and shut it off. That is more than half the battle won!

I use the Pomodoro method. That is 25 minutes of "work" and a five-minute break. There are two benefits to this method. One is that it gets me sitting down and working. There is something that feels attainable about focusing for 25 minutes. The other benefit is that it provides for frequent standing and moving breaks. Choose the timing that works best for you. The more you get up, the more your blood flows and that is a good thing! In addition to working out muscle tightness it improves brain function.

Next, what do you do when you do stand up? This current situation that we are all in is limiting. Saying that "we should make the best of it" sounds trite but it is one choice that we all have. So, get up and move in the

space that you have. Exercises like push-ups, squats, lunges, planks and burpees are obvious choices (OK, maybe not the burpees) but how about trying something a little different? I created this sequence of exercises for a client who was sitting far too much and paying the price with back soreness. If you're someone who does yoga it's similar to a sun salutation but I like to call it a burpee-in-disguise.

- From a standing position put your hands on the floor in front of you and walk them forward into a downward dog. Hold this position for as long as you like. It's a great stretch.

- Walk your hands forward into a straight arm plank and hold for a bit.

- Do five or more push-ups.
- Lower your body to the floor and into the cobra. Hold here as long as it feels good.

- Lift your body back into the straight arm plank position and walk your hands back into the downward dog. Hold again.

- Walk your hands back toward your feet, while bending your knees and rolling

on to your heels so that you end up in the squat position. Do five or more squats while you're there.

- Repeat or stand up and head back to whatever it was you were doing.

If you are going to give this a try, only do the parts that are good for you to do. Remember, doing something is better than doing nothing. Don't let the steady state get the better of you.

Something to think about.

Laurie Sweig is a certified personal fitness trainer and spinning instructor. She owns and operates The Point for Fitness. She can be reached at laurie@thepointforfitness.com.



LAURIE SWEIG

Practical Fitness

Parks off limits as COVID-19 precaution

DORSET NEWS

Lee Ross
burgesslt@me.com

On March 31 the Province of Ontario ordered that parks, dog parks, playgrounds, recreation areas, docks and piers should close. The Township of Algonquin Highlands has put yellow caution tape around the parks in town as well as the parkette on Highway 35 where the public boat launch is. We are prohibited from congregating in these areas, and those caught violating these rules, tampering with and removing signs and caution tape are subject to a fine.

Robinson's General Store has implemented some new rules at this time. They include: Try to limit your visits to once per week, try to send only one person per household to shop, do not bring anything from home into the store (ie. totes, reusable bags, etc.), they will be waiving the plastic bag fee. Debit/credit payment is preferred but they will still accept cash if necessary and please be kind and respectful to the staff and follow their

instructions. Also, in order to discourage people from coming to the store every day they have suspended the sale of newspapers effective April 6.

If you're out and about getting some fresh air, be mindful of rivers and lakes opening up. With the recent melt, the rivers are flowing and ice is breaking up on the lakes so it's best to stay away from these bodies of water if you're not sure of the conditions.

Happy birthday to Bev Robinson, Robbie Drebbitt and Caitlin Perry. For birthdays and submissions please send them to burgesslt@me.com.



Yellow caution tape warns people not to use the Dorset parkette, a measure to control the spread of COVID-19.

Resources available for tourism businesses

by **CHAD INGRAM**
Times Staff

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic is creating tough times for many businesses, including the tourism-based businesses of the Haliburton Highlands.

“Some businesses are talking like they may have to close their doors forever,” Haliburton County tourism director Amanda Virtanen told the *Times*. “Other businesses are talking about how this is normally the down season for them anyway.”

The big question on everyone’s mind is will business be back to normal, at least in some capacity, by the all-important summer season.

“It’s going to be tough for the county,” Virtanen said.

On the County of Haliburton’s website – www.halburton-county.ca – a link on the homepage takes visitors to a page dedicated to resources associated with the COVID-19 outbreak. Among them is a list of government programs business owners can access including the Canada Emergency Business Account; the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy; the New Loan Guarantee; the Businesses Credit Availability Program; and changes to taxes and benefits.

While some of the county’s culinary establishments have shut down completely for the time being, some remain open offering takeout and delivery, as permitted under provincial regulations. Farm-gate operations and some other set-ups are also permitted to continue. The county is keeping a database of what local providers are offering during this time, and any food providers are encouraged to make sure the county has their information by emailing Thom Lambert at food.tourism.hh@gmail.com.

The county would also like to promote any social distancing or virtual experiences being offered by experience providers. Anyone with programming that may fit this bill is asked to email Eric Casper at tourism@myhaliburtonhighlands.com.

With the fishing season approaching, the county will also be creating a new fishing section on its tourism website and anyone who can help facilitate fishing activities in a social

distancing environment – the supply of gear, for example, is also asked to email Casper.

The county is also launching a new section on its tourism website called “From a Distance,” which will focus on promoting activities that can be done while social distancing.

Many business owners are making difficult decisions during this time. Virtanen noted that the county’s two largest cottage rental agencies have decided to shut down their operations for at least a couple of months amid the pandemic, and that that window may be extended.

“They have decided to do the responsible thing,” she said.

In a statement, Nicole Whiting, executive director of the Ontario’s Highlands Tourism Organization, of which the county is part, said. “This crisis is unprecedented. The play-book is being written and revised in real-time against an elusive moving target. Our desire for predictability to chart a path forward is challenged as the time frame for our new reality seems to extend on a daily basis. The hardship facing so many cannot be underestimated and our tourism sector, along with the communities in our region who rely on the visitor economy, are going to face extremely difficult times ahead.”

OHTO is keeping a page on its website with COVID-19-related updates for tourism stakeholders that can be found at <https://comewander.ca/industry/>.

It is also working on promoting businesses in the region through enhanced digital marketing and more information about those activities can be found at <https://ohtoinsider.com/2020/04/02/ohtos-next-steps-for-marketing/>.

A survey conducted by the Tourism Industry Association of Ontario between March 18 and 23 indicated that, at that time, 52 per cent of tourism businesses had closed temporarily; 27 per cent were at risk of closing permanently if shut down for three months; and that 35 per cent of tourism had laid off staff. Of those businesses, 36 per cent had laid off all of their staff. The COVID-19 crisis has had a heightened impact on the tourism since the time the survey was taken.

On April 7, Virtanen was scheduled to be part of a call with Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Minister Lisa MacLeod, who was seeking input on the impact of COVID-19 on tourism stakeholders and destination marketing organizations throughout the province.

Lake associations donate thousands to food banks

by **CHAD INGRAM**
Times Staff

Local lake associations are donating thousands of dollars to Haliburton County’s food banks amid the COVID-19 pandemic, and those who’ve donated are challenging other associations to do the same.

Food banks are experiencing increased demand amid the ongoing pandemic as many county residents are laid off from work, with demand up about 20 per cent so far.

The South Lake Association of Cottagers and Residents donated \$1,000 to the Minden Community Food Bank and is challenging lake associations throughout the county to follow suit.

“They asked me to issue a challenge to the rest of the lake associations,” Paul MacInnes, chairman of the Coalition of Haliburton Property Owners’ Associations, told the *Times*. “Within 12 hours, [the food bank] got another \$1,000 donation.”

As MacInnes was on the phone with the newspaper, he got an email from a lake association in Highlands East announcing it was donating \$300 to the food bank in Wilberforce. The Redstone Lake Cottagers’ Association has donated \$1,500 to SIRCH Community Services as it increases the number of frozen meals it is providing in the community.

The Maple, Beech and Cameron Lakes Area Property Owners’ Association has a \$500 cheque on the way to the food bank in Minden, and president Murray Adam told the paper he expected an additional \$200 or so to be donated by members of the association’s executive. MBC is also challenging other lake associations to donate.

“We’re grateful for what the lake associations are doing to help us,” said Joanne Barnes, manager of the Minden Community Food Bank. “We welcome anybody who’s lost their job to come here. We are here to help. There is no shame in coming here for help.”

Free ebook to help kids understand COVID-19

Marie Gage and Audrey Ramsay have just released a free ebook that is aimed at helping young children cope with the Covid-19 situation.

Our world is a strange place to navigate these days and Gage got thinking that it must be very difficult for young children to comprehend. She wanted to do something to make it easier, something that would empower children to be a part of the solution while at the same time help them to understand that this is temporary. The underlying message is that a new, brighter day, with more of our usual freedoms, will come again if we all stick together.

To this end they have created a free ebook for you to download and read to your child. Children are encouraged to draw

a picture of the new superhero, the Germ Defier, or to make a costume for themselves and take a photo. These can be uploaded to the Author Marie Gage Facebook page in the comments of the posting. Each participating child will then receive a free copy of Blake’s Monkey Adventure in ebook format as a thank you.

The free ebook can be accessed either through the Author Marie Gage Facebook page or the Author Marie Gage website:

mariegage.ca/the-germ-defiers-a-new-superhero-team

Gage and Ramsay are hoping that everyone will share the link with their friends and family.

“We’re grateful for what the lake associations are doing to help us.”

— JOANNE BARNES, MANAGER OF THE MINDEN COMMUNITY FOOD BANK

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COVID-19 can't stop maple syrup production

by **DARREN LUM**
Times Staff

It takes 40 litres of sap to make one litre of syrup and the ideal conditions for high yields is cold nights and warm days. Haliburton County has seen its fair share of such weather and area producers have been the beneficiaries of strong sap flow.

Seeing the snow on their property is a good sign for producers. Once it melts the season is pretty much finished, as trees begin to show buds.

In Minden, Neil Campbell of Sapsucker Ridge described maple syrup production as being “like playing the lottery.”

After close to two decades, he is finishing his last year of maple syrup production, using the old school method of collecting with 196 buckets.

He was expecting to finish with 221 litres of syrup or a little more than a litre per bucket and considered this the third consecutive “pretty good year” for his pre-sold Brown Dog Pure Maple Syrup.

“Getting that much syrup from 196 taps is more a matter of good luck than good management. This would give me the third good year in a row after some struggles during the 18 years I have been making syrup. ... this will be the last year for Brown Dog; it’ll be good to leave on a sweet note if it turns out that way,” he wrote in a message to his customers.

The reason Campbell is hanging up his spigot is he’ll be turning 77 this April and said he decided two years ago he couldn’t cut wood for his rustic home in the woods and for his evaporator anymore. He’s thankful for the help from Randy Beacler, who helped with the boiling of sap.

North on Highway 35, retired couple Rick and Wendy Wood were expecting a good year after experiencing a “big run” of 3,000 litres of sap collected in the first few weeks at their Colour of Wood property.

This year they were seeing greater efficiency harvesting syrup by employing a reverse osmosis system, which draws water from the sap they collect from their 705 taps via lines. Taking water out from the sap means less boiling so less wood is needed. The only downside, Rick said, is the four-hour cleanup of the system after each use.

At their hilly property, the two tanks of sap outside the sugar shack have a definitive difference.

The tank collecting the south-facing trees usually contains double the volume as the north.

Rick said this is owed to the greater sun exposure, which brings more warmth and helps the sap flow from the trees and through the lines. He’s hopeful this year’s yield will be 800 litres of syrup, which is a little more than a litre per tap.

Over in West Guilford, Wayne Krangle said he is seeing a 15 per cent increase from his average yield of the past 10 years. Krangle has 260 trees tapped and produces his Syrup for Soldiers to benefit the Wounded Warriors fund, which supports Canadian soldiers and their families and emergency personnel dealing with mental health issues such as PTSD.

At Cossette’s Maple Syrup in Haliburton, a new family is taking the reins for the first time this year.

Owned and operated by the young farming family of Garrett and Maggie James, both 27-years-old, son Tupper, 5, and daughter Ana, 3.

This is their second year of operation, but their first on their own after completing the transition phase with former owners Rene



Above, Rick Wood looks through his maple syrup refractometer, which tells him the sugar content of the syrup he's producing. Wood said the measurement must be at least 66.3 Brix - a percentage of sugar.

Right, Rick Wood prepares to use his reverse osmosis system during his maple syrup making process. The system enables Wood to draw water from the sap, which ensures a greater efficiency in the production of maple syrup. /DARREN LUM Staff

and Carole Cossette, who started the operation in 1987.

“This is just another avenue to be self-sustaining and make a little more money. We like it. We like anything outdoors,” Maggie said.

Her husband, she said, started making syrup as a kid in the Lindsay area, where they both grew up.

Farming for liquid gold is a sweet passion, as everyone in the family loves to eat maple syrup, even if the couple can’t agree on amber versus dark.

Garrett helped Rene for the past several years before completing the transition this year. Rene is originally from Quebec, where they produce the most maple syrup in the world.

The family is living on the lower floor of the home on the property, but will be completing their full move from their Loon Lake farm to live and operate a farm on the Hilltop Road property later this year.

Garrett said he expects an above average yield this season from their 1,800 taps.

Although the couple has filtered more sand than other years, they don’t mind because they use it to feed their pigs, who love the sweet sediment. (All of those interviewed for this story noticed a much greater volume of sand or nutrients that needed to be filtered from the sap. Some up to 50 per cent more. No one had a theory as to why.)

There is already a plan to continue to ex-



pand slowly towards maximizing the maple syrup potential for upwards of 5,000 taps for the 101-acre property. The couple is open to keeping the business going for a long time and have a willing helper in their son, who has demonstrated an aptitude for the work and is well-versed in production practices.

In Wilberforce, Esson Creek Maple’s Josh Bramham said “it’s been a good year” for the mainly amber coloured syrup he and his family work to produce. He expects this season to be their best of the past four years of operation, which can be in part credited to add-

Boredom's impossible when you're making syrup

from page 10

ing more taps – from 1,730 to 1,984 this year – as well as the ideal weather conditions.

The Bramhams' first tap was on Feb. 6, which was part of a plan to be prepared for their first run of sap. Their first boil was on March 10. His hope is to continue until the end of April at the Essonville Line property.

Although the standard of producing one litre of syrup per tree applied to farms without a vacuum system, he said to truly maximize the return at Esson Creek Maple is to reach 1.5 litres of syrup per tree. This year, they are averaging 1.8 litres per tree. If weather conditions continue for this week, he expects to match what they've averaged so far.

COVID-19 is not affecting their production, but may hurt sales in the coming year.

Bramham said he's concerned about the 15 per cent of sales that won't be made through tours and visits at their shack if they must be closed to the public. Summer sales at farmers' markets could be hampered if social gathering restrictions continue this summer. Commercial sales are an option they've considered, but if other producers do the same there may be more supply than demand and will lower the market price.

Over on Drag Lake, Bill Beatty keeps doing what he has done for 40 years and cannot understand why anybody could be bored while self-isolating.

“I don’t know why anybody gets bored with being isolated because all you got to do is go out and gather the sap and bring it in and boil it. Then you get to it, bottle it and label it. So how can you get bored?” he said.

Late last week he was little more than halfway through his season of collection of sap from his 229 taps at Beatty's Sugar Bush, starting his first tap the second week of March.

"As far as we're concerned it's coming along great," he said.

Other producers he knows have expressed the same optimism for a strong year.

There hasn't been a large run of sap yet at his property and he didn't have a prediction for the rest of the season, citing the unusual winter weather and Mother Nature. The litre of syrup per tree standard is beyond what he has ever collected. His yield is closer to three-quarters of a litre per tap.

Beatty, who had his daughter help with bottling this year, doesn't have any plans to quit despite slowing down in the bush.

“I keep saying I’m going to quit when I’m 90, but then when I’m 90 I may take a look at it and say, ‘let’s do it another year,’” he said.



Rick Wood is hopeful for a good year and had a "big run" of sap already with some 3,000 litres collected.



Wendy Wood checks the maple syrup lines on her 25-acre property in Minden Hills.

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Large Home Minutes from Haliburton
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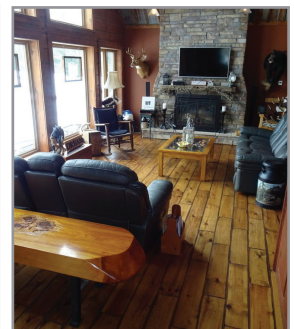
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- » Many Out Buildings
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\$384,500.00



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- » Over 200' of shoreline with shallow entry
- » Overlooks Algonquin park

County Road 121 Retreat
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- » 5 Bedrooms / 4 Bathrooms
- » Includes a Cabin on a 4 acre pond
- » 30'x28' Garage and more! 94 acres

Halls Lake Family Compound or Commercial Resort	\$1,100,000.00
--	-----------------------



- » Main Cottage has 4 bedrooms plus 4 Cabins
- » Over 400' of frontage on Halls Lake
- » Rental history is available

Home builders support construction restrictions

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

The Haliburton County Home Builders’ Association, along with the Ontario Home Builders’ Association, says it’s supportive of the provincial government’s decision to restrict construction activities in Ontario amid the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak.

While a variety of construction activities had been permitted to continue under the province’s first list of “essential” business that was permitted to continue during the pandemic, on Friday, April 3, Premier Doug Ford announced a revised and shortened list that in particular put further restrictions on the types of construction projects that will be permitted to continue for the time being. While residential construction projects or renovations that are underway are allowed to be completed, construction will then be limited to only active sites on the essential businesses list – the construction of a hospital or medical facility, for example.

Increased safety standards for job sites have also been put into effect, and the Ministry of Labour is heightening its inspection activity.

“The Haliburton County Home Builders’ Association has

been focused on the health and safety of everyone on job sites by sharing information with our members,” said HCHBA president Keith Thomas in a press release. “Following the recent release by the Ministry of Labour of new health and safety guidelines for construction sites during COVID-19, members immediately went to work to improve site conditions including additional requirements for sanitization, physical distancing, illness reporting and limiting the number of workers on individual sites.”

Ministry inspectors are looking at sanitary conditions of toilet facilities and wash-up stations, as well as logs that keep track of who is on the construction site and where they are. They are also looking for social distancing protocols being undertaken on construction sites, as well as the postage of social distancing signage. Workers are encouraged to maintain a minimum distance of two metres from one another; wash their hands frequently or use hand sanitizer frequently; wipe down and disinfect surfaces regularly; avoid carpooling; and avoid coming to work if they are feeling ill or exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19.

“We all want safe job sites,” Joe Vaccaro, CEO of the Ontario Home Builders’ Association, said in a press release. “Across Ontario, industry members have been enhancing their COVID-19 protocols as required by government. With the new provincial restrictions on active job sites, members

will continue to focus on worker safety and delivering keys to the thousands of families waiting for their homes to be completed. Let’s keep each other safe. We are all in this together.”

“

The [HCHBA] has been focused on the health and safety of everyone on job sites by sharing information with our members.

— KEITH THOMAS, PRESIDENT OF HCHBA

”




South Lake - EXCLUSIVE



1026 Capricorn Court - \$335,000

Looking to break into the cottage market this year? This seasonal cottage on South Lake has 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths and sits on a solid block foundation offering you a walkout basement. The main level has 3 bedrooms, half bath, and open concept living/dining area with sliding doors to the wrap around deck. The walkout level features a recreation room, 3 pc bathroom, laundry and 2 bonus storage rooms.

The decking at both the walkout level and off the main floor provides beautiful views of the lake. You will be sure to enjoy the sun here with the southeastern exposure! The property is conveniently located about 5km from amenities in Minden and has easy year round access. It comes fully furnished and ready for you to enjoy.

Spring is coming... this is your chance to get into the waterfront cottage market. Contact Melanie Hevesi today to hear more about this amazing property.

Melanie Hevesi
Broker

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office 705.286.2911
info@melaniehevesi.com
www.melaniehevesi.com






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Province restricts outdoor fires in region

All outdoor fires in the province’s “fire region” have been restricted by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry as of April 3.

According to a press release from the MNRF, those who live in the “restricted fire zone,” which includes Haliburton County, cannot have fires outside: “this includes burning of grass, debris and campfires, even when using an outdoor fire grate, fireplace or fire pit.”

“During this very challenging time when we are fighting the spread of the [COVID-19] virus, our number one priority is the health and safety of the people of Ontario,” said John Yakabuski, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry. “We are putting these important preventative measures in place now to ensure that our emergency responders are able to focus their efforts where they are needed most.”



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In accordance with requests from the provincial government we've closed our stores for in-store shopping at this time.

But don't worry, many of our stores are taking orders by phone and you can always get what you need with our new curbside pickup and ship to home options.






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Email Monday to Friday from 7:30am to 4pm
joannec@cantire682.com

Highlands Summer Festival season cancelled

One of Haliburton County's most popular summer attractions, the Highlands Summer Festival, announced on Monday it had to cancel its 2020 season due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Although the opening day isn't until June 29, preparations such as rehearsals, set design and costume creation would need to begin now, said Brian Kipping, the president of the festival's board of directors, in a press release.

"The decision was taken after much deliberation and consideration of the options available to us," he said. "But in the end, the welfare of patrons, cast, crew and volunteers was uppermost in our minds in taking this course of action."

This year's festival was to feature The

Sound of Music, The Importance of Being Earnest, Every Brilliant Thing, Lucien, and Across the Pond.

"We were deeply committed to the 2020 season – the festival's creative team has been working since last August to put it together. Performance rights have been purchased, we have beautiful set designs, and three wonderful casts were ready to begin work," artistic producer Scot Denton said.

It is hoped the festival will be able to stage the same line-up for the 2021 season, but organizers will need to confirm availability of performance rights. Ticket dates will need to be adjusted.

Those with tickets and passes are being told they can do one of three things: donate the cost of the ticket and receive a tax receipt;

roll the ticket purchase to the 2021 season; or receive a refund for the ticket.

"As a charitable theatre company the Highlands Summer Festival relies on the support of our patrons, both in donations and ticket sales to carry the season financially," Kipping said. "We have already incurred expenses related to the 2020 season, will have more as we wind down for this year and when

preparations begin for the 2021 season."

Kipping thanked the community for its support on behalf of the board.

"We share everyone's disappointment that the 2020 season will not happen as planned, but we look forward to seeing you at the theatre in 2021."

Staff

Folk society to live-stream concerts starting April 11

Those looking for a virtual "night out," when we all have to stay in will be interested in checking out the Haliburton County Folk Society's live-stream concert series, set to feature Albert Saxby and Cassidy Taylor in two concerts this month.

The folk society has postponed and cancelled its other activities due to concern about the potential spread of COVID-19, so it will be live-streaming four concerts, starting on April 11 at 7:30 p.m. on its Facebook page.

"We had a very successful dry run of this concept last week with the support of Canoe FM Radio Hall," a press release from the

folk society says. "The performers were our own Nick & Benton (Nick Russell and Benton Brown). This concert helped us work out many of the issues associated with presenting a quality live-streaming concert."

More than 200 devices connected to the live event, demonstrating to organizers there is demand.

All concerts will be free, but will include a donation component for those who want to offer the artist a tip.

Schedule: April 11 at 7:30 p.m.: Albert Saxby; April 25 at 7:30 p.m.: Cassidy Taylor.

Staff

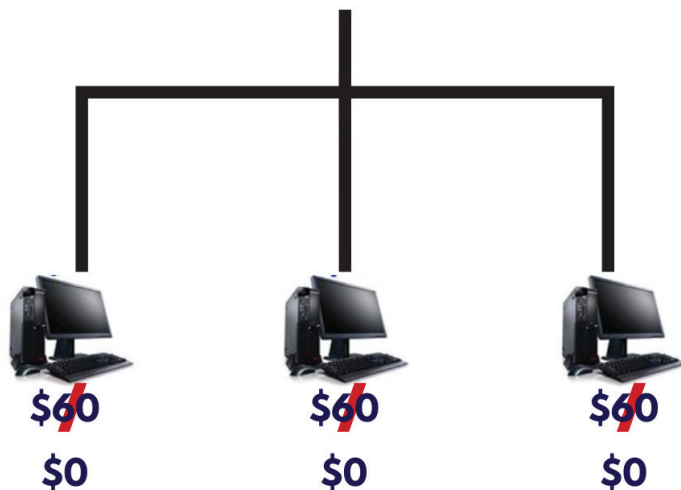


Thank you
to all those who remain on the front line

JAMIE SCHMALE, MP
Haliburton—Kawartha Lakes—Brock

705 324 2400 • TOLL FREE: 866 688 9881
Jamie.schmale@parl.gc.ca • jamieschmale.ca

solidstate REMOTE OFFICE Business Network



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'A little piece of the community' offered online

by SUE TIFFIN
Times Staff

Nancy Therrien was adapting library programming to allow for greater physical distancing as recommendations to stay home came into effect before March Break when the library programming was cancelled altogether. Not long after that, the library doors would close. Changes were happening rapidly, on a daily basis, but Therrien and fellow Haliburton County Public Library staff responded quickly.

"I just thought it would be a way for us to get our programs out to people that can't come to us, especially during the March Break, that's what hit probably the worst, is the fact that there are all kinds of March Break programs scheduled, and then almost instantly everything got cancelled," said Therrien. "Maybe 48 hours was the window, and then boom, everything was cancelled. We had to make a choice pretty quickly ... Once I found out everything had been cancelled completely, then I had to say, OK what can we do?"

The result was the HCPL's Family Storytime being offered online. On March 17, the day after the HCPL announced branch doors would be closed to the public as the threat of the coronavirus pandemic came closer, Therrien's was one of the first local faces being broadcast into homes, on the HCPL Facebook page, as kids and adults gathered around their devices to watch the programming live. Celebrating Dr. Seuss, Therrien appeared wearing a green wig and wearing an HCPL "Keep Calm and Read a Book" shirt, sang a rhym-



Nicholas Russell of Haliburton Guitar Studio has been offering free and interactive guitar workshops and impromptu concerts on social media, YouTube videos from the studio for sharing online and took part in an online concert streaming on March 28. / Submitted by Nicholas Russell

ing song while encouraging kids to join in, read a Dr. Seuss book and, together with Noelia Marzali, conducted a science experiment using materials kids might have in their homes.

"True storytime should have more elements than just the stories, it needs to have the songs and the rhymes and the extra bits and pieces, the visual elements, to make it more inclusive," said Therrien. "To do it really well, there's a lot to it."

Online HCPL programming can also include Maker Break, Libby ebooks tutorials, Tech Time and BookClub videoconferencing, while groups like the Algonquin Highlands Writers Circle can meet via videoconferencing, too. "The idea behind it was just ... it's not necessarily going to be better than what someone might put out there, but it's us," said Therrien. "It's local. People get just a little piece of the community."

Therrien said different technology has been tested and trialed to determine which app or platform works for each unique need of programming: some can be pre-recorded, for example, some might require more interactive elements.

"The big problem is, we have some people who have nothing, no internet at all," said Therrien. "We can't help that. But for the people we do, we can reach out, and little by little everyone is going to learn the technology."

Ideally, she said, what the library will offer is "not too overwhelming for someone who just wants to be a participant."

During the first few Storytimes, Therrien went into the library. But now, she said, everyone including her is working from home. Rob Muir's Storytime sessions include his cats. Jaime Bilodeau's Storytime sessions include her daughter, Holly Carpenter.

"It might be easier for her," said Therrien, of having an actual child participating in the Storytime as they would be in person at the library. And then, laughing: "although she also has that element of you never know what a child is going to say or do."

An added benefit of having an online option for programming, said Therrien, is that participation increases, noting that when physical distancing requirements are relaxed, the library could still broadcast live programs for those who aren't able to attend in person.

"It's much further reaching," she said. "People that can't drive for whatever reason, they can watch it from their home. So that's the positive aspect of it and I can see continuing with this easily."

Though there were some challenges in figuring out how to make everything run as seamlessly as possible, Therrien said she would recommend bringing services and programming online to anyone in the community who is considering it.

"My answer would be, try it," she said. "Even though you might not understand the technology element, it can only get better. We're just going forward in time maybe 10 years, because I think if we had fast forwarded 10 years, there would be a lot more online activities, so we're just all being pushed forward a little more quickly. Just try it, go for it, don't worry if it doesn't work out, just keep on trying, eventually it's got to work. Problem solving is a big part of any technology, it doesn't matter if it's video conferencing going live, or learning how to use your cellphone. It's all problem-solving."

Once computers and tablets and other equipment to make home videos possible were redeployed to staff who needed it in order to be able to work from home – a bigger challenge than one would expect, said Therrien, who noted library staff are taking sanitizing and social distancing guidelines seriously – an online programming schedule was put in place and the HCPL Facebook page has seen regular activity, bringing the library into homes throughout the county and beyond.

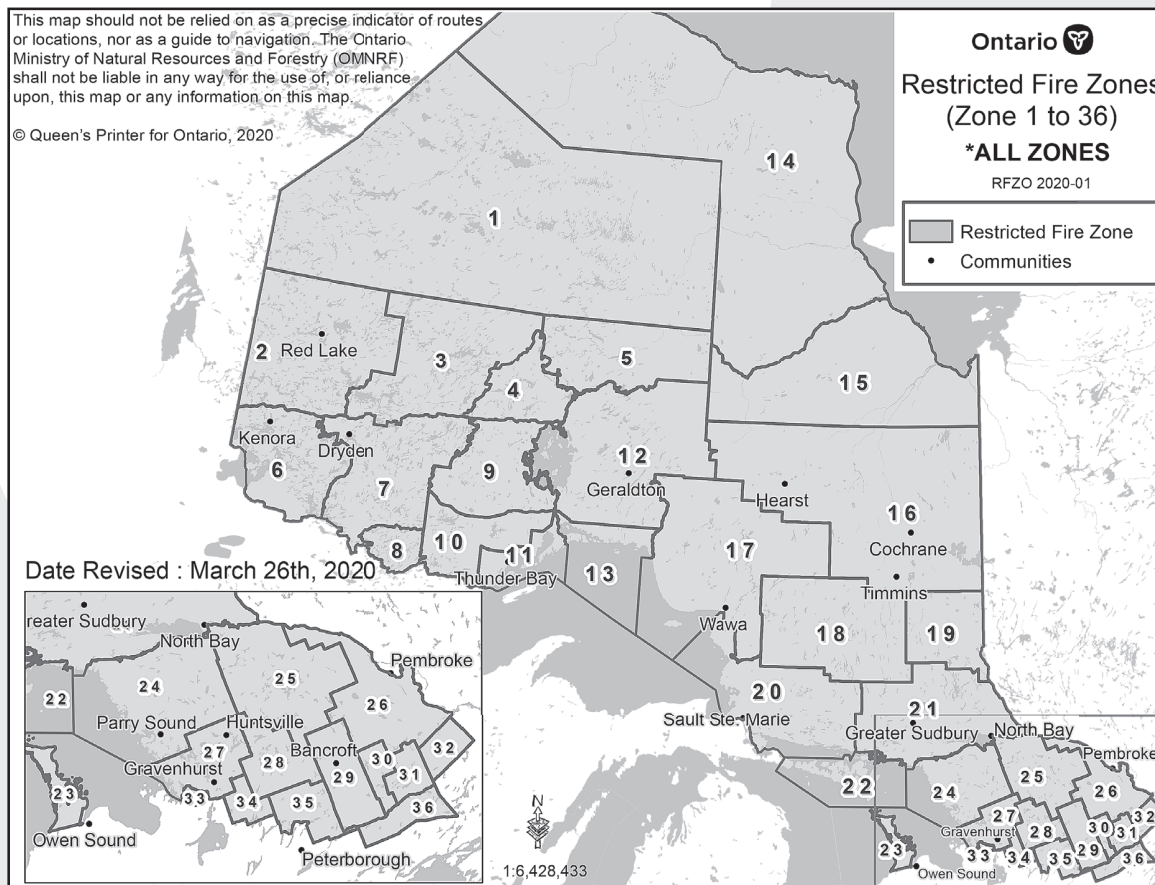
"It feels like what we're supposed to be doing," said Therrien. "Our focus as a library is to be a community hub,

see SKILLS page 15

RESTRICTED FIRE ZONE IN EFFECT

For all Zones in the fire region of Ontario

In order to ensure public safety and well-being during the evolving COVID-19 outbreak, Ontario has declared a Restricted Fire Zone for the entire fire region of the province (Restricted Fire Zones 1 to 36) outlined in the map below, effective April 3rd, 2020 at 12:01 a.m.



The Restricted Fire Zone is in effect until further notice. This is a proactive action to reduce the number of preventable human-caused fires and reduce the risk of wildfires impacting the public.

Restricted Fire Zones help protect public safety. In a Restricted Fire Zone, outdoor fires are banned. Portable gas stoves may still be used BUT must be handled with extreme care. For more information, contact your local Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR) Fire Management Headquarters.

For detailed information on the Restricted Fire Zone boundaries visit: [Ontario.ca/forestfire](https://ontario.ca/forestfire).

Skills learned today may come in handy later

from page 14

if we can't do that in person, maybe we can do it virtually."

Stretching mindfully online

With the sound of a singing bowl reverberating through a room in Blue Sky Yoga Studio in Haliburton, Lynda Shadbolt smiles from a spot on the floor in front of the fireplace and says to anyone who might be watching the broadcast, either live as she films or post-recording, "Rumi said, do not feel lonely, the entire universe is inside you."

Shadbolt has been offering free yoga, meditation and qigong classes on Facebook, welcoming everyone to join in. At noon, she tapes a meditation as part of a 100 days of loving kindness program, encouraging people around the world to meditate for a minimum of five minutes a day, which began May 27 and runs until July 4.

"One of the really cool things is that I have someone from Egypt doing the 100-day meditation, a student from University of British Columbia in Vancouver, a friend from Alberta, people from across Ontario, and some people I've never met, as well as friends and students," said Shadbolt in an email to the *Times*. "Just am amazed at technology."

The technology, she said, has been a big challenge for her. She started posting videos to Facebook because it was easiest, and would like to try other programs but hasn't ventured into doing so yet, while also making maple syrup and helping with her parents – who are 86 and 91 and live in their own home almost four hours away. But missing her students, "and the positive energy they bring into my life in every class," and wanting to support people while they are at home made her get involved with sharing to the online community.

"I love the connections I have made," she said. "Friends from all over the world have tuned in and that has felt wonderful. Doing the classes helps me stay focused and positive, especially when I notice I am becoming worried or fearful."

Still, from in-person to on-camera has been a big leap.

"I am still learning to be comfortable on camera," she said. "I am generally a quiet person who never in a million years saw herself being filmed and on the screen."

But Shadbolt overcomes that to be part of a greater community in a time of immense need.

"There are yoga, meditation, qigong, fitness teachers all over the world offering classes to support people," she said. "Performers are doing online concerts to lift people up. In spite of all the challenges that are going on, the goodness is rising and people are forging new ways of being and connecting. It is very inspiring."

Shadbolt's classes are posted to haliburton-yoga.com and are also on her Facebook page, @HaliburtonYoga.

Making music, virtually

Lauren McInnes's bright, smiling face greets students as they log on to computers and phones to carry on their music classes with the Haliburton-based teacher, who teaches private and group lessons to people of all ages.

While many of those students were on March Break, McInnes herself was studying, after receiving emails from professional associations she belongs to that offered webinars, courses, and tips for teaching online so that music lessons can continue despite a global movement to stay home to stop the spread of COVID-19.

"In the March Break week, I watched a few webinars, one after the other," she said. "And at first it was just so overwhelming because they were even just assuming that you knew something. They were talking about technical stuff that was way over my head, but my knowledge was so much more basic than I think a lot of people."

McInnes had used Facetime, and Zoom – which offers video conferencing capabilities – in the past, "so I had at least heard of it," she said, but still had a lot to learn before classes began again after March Break, with McInnes at her home and students at their homes. "It seemed to work," she said. "I had a few glitches, but it seemed to work."

She did note that she couldn't believe she was teaching a music class to little tiny kids – a baby-toddler class – on Zoom at one point. "But we did it, and it seemed to work," she said.

"I'm kind of interested that it's worked better for the really young kids, you would think that more adults would go for it, but they aren't jumping on board as quickly," said McInnes. "I think partly because, I have adults who probably just would be overwhelmed the way I was. 'Zoom? Online? Forget it, I'm not going there.' Whereas the younger parents, maybe they're just more used to technology. Also, they're home with their kids, and it's probably good to have some things to do."

The decision to continue teaching online rather than just cancelling classes came after McInnes began feeling the isolation orders might continue for a long time, as well as considering her own income, though she said she knows "that's going to take a hit no matter what, everyone's is."

"But once I reframed it, once I realized that it might actually be good for the students, then I got really keen to do it," she said. "At first I wasn't sure. I think it was just the idea that it was going to maybe go on for a long time, and some of these little kids, they'll forget everything if we don't keep going. This will keep them remembering what we've learned so far."

McInnes said she also thought it would be supportive for parents.

"I thought it would help calm some anxiety. If you have some routine and something to concentrate on, I'm thinking of the kids here, and possibly the parents too, I think it helps to calm anxiety. Maybe it's helping to calm my own anxiety about everything that's going on."

The music lessons have been well-received by students, who log in and take turns playing the piano, or singing along with McInnes, some in their pajamas, many waving at their teacher and fellow students. "I couldn't believe how nice it was, to see the smiling faces come on that screen," said McInnes. "It was just wonderful. It's very reassuring ... all the kids smiling."

McInnes said she isn't sure that the students would want to continue lessons online rather than in person for months on end, but that for now, they're working – and in the future, might be an option when snow days cancel a class.

"The connection works because we've already had the connection in real life," she said. "It's the fact that we have real-life connection and it doesn't have to completely stop, and I think that's what's reassuring. They're just sitting at their keyboards, ready to play."

Though she doesn't always feel the technology is intuitive and has stories to tell about mishaps with computer volume, humbly noting that she has "a lot of learning still to do," McInnes is making it work.

"We're all just doing our best," she said.



Students of Haliburton's Lauren McInnes have continued interactive classes with their music teacher, who studied best practices for providing online piano lessons during March Break so that classes were not interrupted despite the shelter in place instructions from the government. /SUE TIFFIN Staff



PUBLIC NOTICE

Hearing is considered essential. We are open in Minden and Haliburton. Covid – 19 has certainly changed our day to day hearing service. To protect our valued patients, and our wonderful staff we have implemented substantial disinfection procedures to help ensure the safety for all.

1. We will see patients ONLY by booked appointments. Absolutely no walk ins until further notice.

2. Our office is sanitized between each and every patient. If you are bringing in a hearing device for repair, for reprogramming or for any service please call us and book your time and we will accommodate you. Our outside door will be locked and we will meet you at the door to let you in. If you feel more comfortable waiting in your car we will simply take your device from you (wearing disposable gloves) and determine whether we can fix it on site or if we need to send it out for repair. Any reprogramming can be done without you being present. It will be done simulating your loss but will help avoid any one on one contact.

3. We are shortening our hours to allow staff to return to their homes as quickly as possible. Please leave a message on our answering machine and we will call you back once we return to our offices. We will check all messages daily. Please be brief. Leave your name and number.

4. Gord and I as well as Lindsay and Debbie are all committed to helping our community get through this difficult time. Be safe and remember we are all in this together...be kind ...be patient with each other...be a Haliburtonian.

Sincerely,

Gord and Kathryn Kidd
Minden Haliburton Hearing Service
705-457-9171 • 705-286-6001

HHHS Community Programs launches HaliburtonCares.ca

Haliburton Highlands Health Services – Community Programs has launched a new website to provide all residents of Haliburton County with up-to-date information and resources during the COVID-19 global pandemic.

The site, HaliburtonCares.ca, includes information about:

- What Haliburton County residents should do if they are feeling unwell
- How residents can continue to access regular health care
- Support available in the community, including:
 - o Access to free and low-cost food
 - o How the Community Support Services Response Team can help anyone in need, with services like grocery and prescription pick-up and home delivery
 - o How residents can access other local support services who are still operating but may have changed their normal hours or procedures

• A wide range of mental health supports, including immediate crisis support phone and text lines as well as dedicated resources for local health care workers

• How residents can help the COVID-19 response effort by volunteering their time and donating personal protective equipment (PPE)

The site also includes a form that Haliburton County residents can complete and send a message of thanks to the many health care, first responders, community support workers, and volunteers who are working tirelessly to keep the Haliburton Highlands safe.

“HaliburtonCares.ca would not have been possible without the hard work of the local team at TechnicalitiesPlus, who built the site, as well as local service providers who shared ideas and content,” said Stephanie MacLaren, vice-president of Community Programs at HHHS. “We are grateful for this team effort and hope that the site will be of value to our community.”

BounceBack offers mental health support during COVID-19 crisis

To help Ontarians navigating the difficult realities in the wake of COVID-19, the Ontario government has announced an expansion of online and virtual mental health supports, including Canadian Mental Health Association’s BounceBack program.

BounceBack is available now, free of charge, to help people experiencing mild to moderate anxiety, stress and other mental health challenges associated with the pandemic.

Grounded in cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT), BounceBack is a guided self-help approach that is a proven, effective way to help people aged 15 and up who may be feeling low, stressed out, worried, depressed, irritable or angry.

BounceBack participants receive telephone coaching, skill-building workbooks and online videos to help them overcome mild-to-moderate symptoms and gain new skills to regain positive mental health.

BounceBack offers different guided self-help workbooks that include titles such as Understanding Worry and Stress, Overcoming Sleep Problems, Changing Extreme and Unhelpful Thinking, Why Do I Feel So Bad? and 10 Things You Can Do to Feel Happier Straight Away.

BounceBack is not a crisis service or counselling program, but a life-skills course that helps participants develop coping techniques so they can overcome challenges

now or in the future. BounceBack coaches are extensively trained in the delivery of the program and are overseen by clinical psychologists. The main responsibilities of BounceBack coaches are to foster skill development, provide motivation and monitor progress. BounceBack telephone coaching is available in more than 15 languages.

To receive telephone coaching, clients must either be referred by a health care practitioner (family doctor, nurse practitioner), or they may self-refer as long as they’re connected with a primary care provider. It’s important that primary care providers maintain responsibility for their clients’ overall well-being during their time in the program as BounceBack coaches are not counsellors or therapists.

“We’re living in an unprecedented time amid this COVID-19 pandemic, and we’re thankful that the provincial government recognizes the effect this widespread uncertainty can have on everyone’s mental health,” said CMHA HKPR’s chief executive officer, Mark Graham. “We encourage everyone in our community who may be struggling at home to access BounceBack or any of the other expanded mental health services the government has announced.”

To learn more about BounceBack, visit bouncebackontario.ca or call 1-866-345-0224.



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Kelly Jones, Loans Officer kjones@haliburtoncdc.ca
Cory Abbs, Loans & Office Administrator cabbs@haliburtoncdc.ca
Autumn Wilson, Program & Operations Coordinator awilson@haliburtoncdc.ca

Go to www.haliburtoncdc.ca for program details & resources



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			8					
			7			4	9	
	3		5		9	2	6	
8						6	2	
	7					5		
	5	1			4			
					6		1	
				9			5	2
4		2		1				

Level: Advanced

Fun By The Numbers

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Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers on page 18



At NFTC, the health and welfare of our community, and our family of employees is of the utmost importance. During these uncertain times, our team remains committed to our customers.

– Grant Roughley,
VICE PRESIDENT

NFTC has implemented stringent measures that put the health and safety of our community first. Additionally, all of NFTC’s TV customers will have access to a variety of Free Channel Previews for a limited time.

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Fund launched to support pets during COVID-19 crisis

The Ontario SPCA and Humane Society has set up an Urgent Animal Care Fund with other SPCAs and humane societies in Ontario to help animal organizations in the province continue to care for animals and support pet owners during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Ontario SPCA is providing essential services to support municipalities, public health and police. Following direction from the Government of Ontario and advice of health professionals, the Ontario SPCA and its partner closed their doors to the public to help slow and stop the spread of COVID-19.

With adoptions put on hold, many SPCAs and humane societies are facing growing costs as they continue to care for the animals who will now have to wait longer to be adopted. While adoptions are on pause, animals in shelters still need nutritious food, veterinary care, enrichment and daily attention to keep them healthy and happy.

Pet owners from across Ontario are also reaching out for help caring for their animals. As the demand for critical resources like pet food and supplies continues to grow, funds are needed to ensure animal owners in under-served communities can continue to care for their beloved companions.

The Urgent Animal Care Fund will help ensure animals in our communities are safe should their families face financial hardship, become ill, or if they can't access critical supplies and resources like food or veterinary care.

"We know that the long-term costs of care for animals in shelters are adding up, and not just for us, but for other SPCAs and humane societies across the province, which is why the Urgent Animal Care Fund was established," says Daryl Vaillancourt, chief, humane programs and community outreach, Ontario SPCA and Humane Society. "By supporting your local SPCA or humane society, you will help ensure that vulnerable animals in your community are fed, safe and cared for during these challenging times."

To donate to the Urgent Animal Care Fund, visit urgentanimalcarefund.ca



Activities for kids using things you already have

by SUE TIFFIN
Times Staff

While numerous resources on the internet offer educational, creative and oftentimes free activities and projects for kids to engage in during their time at home, electronic devices or internet access might not always be available at home. Here, a list of activity and project ideas for kids that require no or minimal use of out-of-the-house resources.

- Bird watch, from the window or from the backyard. Make a list or a visual graph of the birds you see or hear.
- Design a map of a world that you create.
- Read a book that used to be a favourite when you were younger, and remember what you loved about it.
- Challenge yourself with fitness – make a list of exercises to do to keep yourself moving, or make a (safe) obstacle course in your backyard.
- Create a song using musical instruments or materials around the house that you can make into musical instruments.
- Make a time capsule, include photos of yourself and your family, videos, a collection of headlines or articles from a newspaper and a journal of what you ate, what games you played, what movies you watched, what books you read and how you felt at this time.
- Learn and practice a magic trick, a few funny jokes or how to do a science demonstration.
- Interview a family member, and then write a story about their life.
- Design and create a board game, then play it when it's finished.
- Think of how you might be able to help someone in your home, community or someone far away from where you are while still staying home – what would be helpful to someone else?




Juliano and Enzo Walter got their bikes out this week to spend some time in the backyard./ Submitted photo

- Learn five words in a different language – you could call someone who speaks another language to ask them to teach you the words, or learn the sign language alphabet.
- Design a newspaper for your home – include articles about people who live there and what they've been doing, interviews, photos that you draw, a games and puzzles page and classified ads.
- Really explore nature: watch a flower as it grows and blooms, make observations of animals preparing for spring-time activities, look closely at ants or worms and touch or hug a tree.
- Create an epic Rube Goldberg machine in a room or throughout your house.
- Write a story with a character named for a person in the phone book or newspaper, a setting of a place anywhere in the world chosen from a map and one word that your finger finds when pointing to a random page in a dictionary.
- Watch the short documentary *Caine's Arcade* if you have access to the internet, then use cardboard to invent your own work of art.
- Sit inside or outside in a backyard for an hour and then write about your experience.

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1	3	7	5	4	9	2	6	8
8	4	3	1	5	7	6	2	9
2	7	9	6	8	3	5	4	1
6	5	1	9	2	4	8	3	7
3	8	5	2	7	6	9	1	4
7	1	6	4	9	8	3	5	2
4	9	2	3	1	5	7	8	6





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In response to the rapidly evolving COVID-19 pandemic, the Township of Algonquin Highlands office is closed. Please leave proposals in the drop box at the entrance to the main office at 1123 North Shore Road.

For further information contact:
Adam Thorn, Operations Manager
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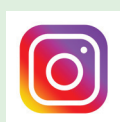
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Canada Post is inviting tenders for Grounds Keeping to start May 1, 2020 at the Kinmount Post Office

Specifications may be picked up at the Post Office located at 4078 County Rd. 121

Quotes must be received by **April 17, 2020**

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Registered Nurses

Candidates are expected to be available for both Minden and Haliburton Hospital locations. In addition, opportunities are available in our two Long Term Care facilities, Hyland Wood and Hyland Crest. The RN is responsible for providing comprehensive care to patients, with predictable and unpredictable outcomes who may or may not be clinically stable.

The successful candidate will possess a current triage course certification, Coronary Care 1, and current ACLS are required to work in the Emergency Department. Candidates that lack advanced certification in Coronary Care 2 and Emergency Nursing 1 and 2 may be hired with the requirement to independently attain these qualifications within 6 months-2 years of hire, depending on the certification, in order to work in all areas.

Two years of acute care practice is required; previous emergency department or specialty department experience of 1 year or more is preferred. The successful candidate will possess a diploma/degree in Nursing and a current Certificate of Competence from the College of Nurses of Ontario. Recent experience is preferred.

Registered Practical Nurses

Provide client care in accordance with the Professional Standards of the College of Nurses of Ontario. She or he, as a member of the health care team, has a significant role in promoting health, preventing illness, and helping clients attain and maintain the highest level of health possible in situations in which a clients condition is relatively stable, less complex and the outcomes of care are predictable.

RPN's must have a diploma in Nursing, a Current Certificate of Competence from the College of Nurses of Ontario, current BCLS, with regular and consistent participation of CNO's quality assurance and reflective practice program. Must have a demonstrated knowledge of RPN scope of practice, excellent organization and prioritization skills and an ability to read, write and communicate effectively in English. Excellent interpersonal skills and ability to work well with patients/family, staff, physicians and the community are critical. Added Nursing skills for RPN's In addition, the successful candidate must be available to work day, evening and night shifts, along with weekends and statutory holidays. A commitment to attend work on a consistent basis is also a requirement.

Personal Support Workers

Provides resident care in relation to activities of daily living, quality of life, environment management and continuous communication. She or he, as a member of the health care team, has a significant role in promoting health, preventing illness, and helping residents attain and maintain the highest level of health possible in situations in which a resident's condition is relatively stable, less complex and the outcomes of care are predictable.

Candidates must have successfully completed a Personal Support Worker program that meets one of the following: The vocational standards established by the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, the standards established by the National Association of Career Colleges, or The standards established by the Ontario Community Support Association and is at least 600 hours in length. Experience in working with the acutely or chronically ill and/or palliative clients preferred, understanding of MDS RAI is an asset, good problem solver, organizing your own work, excellent recording and reporting skills, personal care skills, ability to read, write and communicate effectively in English, CPR Preferred.

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The Times

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This Week: **EXODUS**
rock 'n' roll

Next Week: Side Effects

Wednesday, April 27, 1983



Ryan Ladurantaye found himself in handcuffs last week when he and other members of the Minden play school visited the local detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police. Constable Brian Dunham conducted the pre-schoolers on a tour of the station explaining the role of the police officer and showing the youngsters some of the equipment used by the force.

Development policy needed for highway

A development policy for Highway 35 commercial properties should be created by the municipal council.

That was the sentiment expressed by Anson, Hindon and Minden Councillor Gary Kenney as he voted against a motion approving the opening of a furniture store in the premises formerly occupied by Peterborough Lumber. Kenney emphasized he was not against the furniture store per se, but rather the fact that the municipality lacks a policy covering development on the by-pass. "This is a perfect example of strip development," Kenney stated.

When question of approval first came before the council, Kenney asked how a furniture store fit in with the accepted "food, fuel and accommodation" policy enunciated by the Ministry of Transportation and

Communications for highway commercial property. It was pointed out by Deputy Reeve Ed. Pergolas that the furniture store did not front on the highway but on a municipal road. He said the South Water Street road allowance was extended across the highway some years ago to accommodate the opening of the Peterborough Lumber store. The extension of the road allowance was apparently necessary as the ministry would not grant an access permit to the lumber outlet.

Pergolas noted that since it is a municipal road allowance which extends across the highway, there was a possibility of the other retail outlets being constructed in the same area as these would front on a municipal road and not the highway.

Councillor Pat Burk noted there was no reason to have the building remain empty, as it has since the lumber company moved out almost two years ago.

Reeve Lyle McKnight pointed out that two other businesses had begun operation in that location in the past month. Minden Instant Print recently opened its doors and Ideal Used Clothing Store relocated to one of the vacant stores from its former location downtown.

Clerk-treasurer Elinor Burke noted that the property is zoned for general commercial use, under which these businesses would qualify. However, she also pointed out that when Daniel Lang Developments of Oshawa took over the property several years ago, an agreement between the developer and the municipality stated the township would be notified of any changes in business at that location.

Kenney said he felt the opening of the municipal road on the eastern side of the highway circumvented the planning extension for the by-pass. Admitting that the situation now existed and there was little the council could do, he urged the council to develop a policy which would prevent this from happening again. "We have a responsibility to the entire community," he said. Kenney suggested that since the council could do nothing to block the opening of the furniture store.

"We should say we don't agree with what is taking place...they can proceed anyway."

Council, though appearing sympathetic to Kenney's stand, approved the motion with the only negative vote being cast by Kenney.

The new furniture store, which is to open next month, will be operated by Mary Raby of Minden.

Business moves

Council also indicated that is has no objections to the relocation of Leon's Video store to the former Sweet Retreat. According to the information provided to the council, the store will continue to operate as a take-out dairy bar, bakery outlet and video rental business.

Vehicle registration costs township

One of the more onerous aspects of the last provincial budget became a glaring reality for the members of the Anson, Hindon and Minden Township council when they met April 14.

As the council considered the accounts for the previous month, it was noted that the registration of the municipal vehicles had taken place with close to \$2500 being earmarked for the expenditure. According to the clerk, Elinor Burke, the township spent approximately \$30 last year to register the municipally-owned vehicles.

Prior to the last provincial budget, the registration fee for municipal vehicles was \$2 per vehicle. However the province changed the exemption. As a result municipalities must now pay the regular rate for the vehicles it owns. The registration covers fire trucks, graders, dump trucks and vehicles used by the recreation, public utilities and by-law enforcement staff.

Lieutenant-Governor will unveil plaque

Lieutenant-Governor John Black Aird will unveil a provincial historical plaque commemorating B. Napier Simpson Jr., a prominent Ontario architect, on Sunday May 1. The ceremony will take place at St. Peter's Anglican Church, Maple Lake following the 11 a.m. service.

The plaque, one of many erected throughout the province, is being donated by the Ontario Heritage Foundation, an agency of the Ministry of Citizenship and Culture. The Found-

ation is dedicated to fostering wider interest in local history and stimulating greater participation in the preservation of the province's historical and natural resources.

The event is being sponsored by the congregation of St. Peter's Maple Lake and the rector, the Reverend George Elliott, will act as master of ceremonies. Mr. Russell Cooper, a director of the Ontario Heritage Foundation, will present the plaque and briefly outline

the agency's work. Following the unveiling by Lieutenant-Governor Aird, Mr. B. Napier Simpson, Sr., will speak as a representative of the Simpson family.

The text of the plaque reads as follows:

B. Napier Simpson, Jr.
1925-1978

A prominent Ontario architect, Simpson was born and educated in Toronto. After graduating from university in 1951, he established a thriving private practice and soon

became involved in public restoration projects. An expert in this field, Simpson undertook commissions throughout the province, playing a significant role in the development of Black Creek Pioneer Village in Toronto and Century Village near Peterborough. Through his work with various heritage groups and his efforts to preserve individual structures such as St. Peter's Church where he is buried, he helped heighten public awareness of the value of heritage conserv-

ation. Widely recognized for his achievements, Simpson was appointed to the

Ontario Heritage Foundation and the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, remaining active in these organizations until his death.

Refreshments prepared by the Ladies Auxiliary of St. Peter's will be served in the church following the ceremony.

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